

The following draft rules represent an approach that would provide a much-needed waiver of any proposed USF rule changes for carriers operating in the states of Alaska and Hawaii at the time any new rules are implemented.

While we believe that the end-game solution set is to establish a separate Tribal/Native Broadband Fund (TBF), it may be necessary to apply this interim step to carriers serving customers in Alaska and Hawaii.

This summary shows only the rule change language:

§ 36.601 General.

(d) For carriers operating in the states of Alaska and Hawaii, the changes adopted to §36.601-36.631 as of [effective date of USF reform rules] will not apply to those carriers. The version of the rules found in §36.601-36.631 prior to the USF reform will continue to apply, until such time as the Tribal/Native Broadband Fund (TBF) rules are implemented.

Subpart D – Universal Service Support for High Cost Areas

§ 54.300 Local switching support – Tribal/Native

For carriers operating in the states of Alaska and Hawaii, the changes adopted to §54.301-54.305 as of [effective date of USF reform rules] will not apply to those carriers. The version of the rules found in §54.301-54.305 prior to the USF reform will continue to apply, until such time as the Tribal/Native Broadband Fund (TBF) rules are implemented.

Subpart K – Interstate Common Line Support Mechanism for Rate of Return Carriers

§ 54.900 Calculation of Interstate Common Line Support – Tribal/Native

For carriers operating in the states of Alaska and Hawaii, the changes adopted to §54.901-54.902 as of [effective date of USF reform rules] will not apply to those carriers. The version of the rules found in §54.901-54.902 prior to the USF reform will continue to apply, until such time as the Tribal/Native Broadband Fund (TBF) rules are implemented.